

REMARKS

Claims 3, 5-6, 9, 11, 13-14, 30-35 and 37-38 are currently under consideration in the present application. Claims 2, 4, 7, 8, 10, 12, 15, 16, 18, 21-29, 36 and 39-40 have been withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner. The claims have not been amended in this Response to the Office Action.

APPLICANTS' RECORD OF AN EXAMINER INTERVIEW

Interview
record
okay.
- 4/28/2008
/MM/

On February 28, 2008, Applicants' Counsel Lawrence E. Crowe, Examiner Marcus Menezes, and Mr. Menezes' Supervisor Examiner Sande discussed the Office Action dated November 30, 2007 during a telephone interview. The Applicants' Counsel greatly appreciates the courtesies extended by Examiners Menezes and Sande during the telephone interview.

As a result of the interview, it was agreed that U.S. Patent No. 1,731,704 to Carr was silent with respect to specific limitations of both independent claim 3 and independent claim 30, from which all of the other claims depend. Specifically, it was agreed that Carr did not disclose that the stud B of Carr was connected to the threaded screw passing through the stud B as required by the limitations of claims 3 and 30 of the present application, and further did not disclose that applying a torque to the stud B as required by claim 3 would in any way be sufficient for threading the screw of Carr into the floor. It was further agreed that Carr would be removed as a reference for supporting any of the rejections under either 35 USC § 102 or 35 USC § 103.

It was also agreed that, as a result of removal of Carr as a reference, the Office Action does not provide proper support for a rejection of any of the claims currently under consideration.

It was further agreed that, procedurally, the Applicants would submit a Response to the Office Action traversing the rejection of all claims, and that the next communication from the Examiner would be either a Non-Final Office Action on new grounds not necessitated by any amendment by the Applicants, or a Notice of Allowance.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC § 102

The rejection of claims 3, 9, 11 and 30-35 as being anticipated by Carr (US 1,731,704) is traversed.